

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/692,966

Examiner

David J. Parsley

Applicant(s)

CLEVELAND, MARK A.

Art Unit

3643

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to applicant's amendment dated 10-27-06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 8,9,11 and 21-25.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the limitations of "...a male member having a first side, a second side opposite the first side, a plurality of first protrusions formed on and extending from the first side, and a plurality of second protrusions formed on an extending from the second side; a split female member having a first half structure and a second half structure, the first halt structure having a first flange and a plurality of first flange protrusions formed on and extending from the first flange, the second half structure having a second flange and a plurality of second flange protrusions formed on and extending from the second flange, the first flange opposing the second flange, and the first flange protrusions and the second flange protrusions extending toward one another, wherein the plurality of first protrusions are configured to fit between and mate with the plurality of first flange protrusions, the plurality of second protrusions are configured to fit between and mate with the plurality of second flange protrusions, the plurality of first flange protrusions are configured to fit between and mate with the plurality of first protrusions, and the plurality of second flange protrusions are configured to fit between and mate with the plurality of second protrusions to prevent separation of the separation joint under tensile and compressive forces, and wherein the split female member is configured to clamp and hold the male member without any external fastening mechanism holding the first flange and the second flange to the male member..." and "...an explosive device...the explosive device when detonated releases the male member from the female member, by bending and physically modifying the second flange away from the male member without causing breakage of any component of the separation joint..." in

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claim 21 are not found in combination in the prior art of record and the limitations of "...a male member having a first side, a second side opposite the first side, a plurality of first protrusions formed on and extending from the first side, and a plurality of second protrusions formed on an extending from the second side; a split female member having a first half structure and a second half structure, the first half structure having a first flange and a plurality of first flange protrusions formed on and extending from the first flange, the second half structure having a second flange and a plurality of second flange protrusions formed on and extending from the second flange, the first flange opposing the second flange, and the first flange protrusions and the second flange protrusions extending toward one another, wherein each of the plurality of first protrusions and each of the plurality of second protrusions includes a flat upper surface and an angled lower surface opposite the flat upper surface, each of the plurality of first flange protrusions and each of the plurality of second flange protrusions includes an angled upper surface and a flat lower surface opposite the angled upper surface, the flat upper surfaces mate with the flat lower surfaces and the angled upper surfaces mate with the angled lower surfaces when the first half structure and the second half structure are placed together around the male member, and the split female member is configured to clamp and hold the male member without any external fastening mechanism holding the first flange and the second flange to the male member..." and "...an explosive device...the explosive device when detonated releases the male member from the female member, by bending and physically modifying the second flange away from the male member without causing breakage of any component of the separation joint..." in claim 22 are not found in combination in the prior art of record.


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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David J. Parsley whose telephone number is (571) 272-6890. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8am to 4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Poon can be reached on (571) 272-6891. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


David Parsley
Patent Examiner
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